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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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Organization of Communal Police

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the Czech Ministry of the
Interior on the organization of the communal police.

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1 - Annex 1

50X1

50X1-HUM

Prague

Communal police (osadni milice) - organization

1. A communal police (osadni milice - OM for short) to intensify the border control of the state and preserve peace, security and order in the border area is established herewith by the Ministry of the Interior.
2. The OM is composed of sworn-in rural police; their strength prescribed by the decree of the Ministry of the Interior, dated 2 April 1948 No 8670/4-2/4-45(?) - III/B, is regulated depending on circumstances.
3. Missions
 - a. Safeguarding state and private property, preservation of public safety, protection of forest and agriculture against calamities of nature, fire, etc.
 - b. Intelligence activities.
 - c. Border control (prevention of illegal border crossing by subversive elements such as saboteurs, revolutionaries, spies and other enemies of Czechoslovakia, acting either individually or in groups. Such persons are to be apprehended, identified and consigned to SNB agencies).
 - d. Protective measures against smugglers and customs offenders (such persons are also to be handed over to SNB agencies).
 - e. Intensification of security measures for the preservation of peace, order and security in the border area.

I. Organization4. OM Organization

OM units ranging from one group up to one platoon will be activated on local levels in border area communities. One up to several platoons, depending on the number of OM members, will be activated on VS-SNB level. One company with a varying number of platoons will be activated on OV-SNB level.

5. Strength of Units

Squad: One squad leader and nine EM.

Platoon: One platoon leader, one deputy, several squads, one messenger, one liaison man.

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2 - Annex 1

50X1

Company: One company commander, one deputy, several platoons, one replacement platoon, two messengers, two liaison men, four telephone operators, one cook, one paymaster and one headquarters sergeant.

6. Assignment

As for tactics and training matters, OM units in communities of the border areas are subordinate to the VS-SNB commands in whose range of activity they are located.

OM units on district level are subordinate to the SNB district command via the VS-SNB. OM units on state level are subordinate to the SNB state command. An OM section will be established with the SNB state command.

Commanders of the OM squads, platoons and companies are responsible for disciplinary matters relating to their respective units.

7. Employment of OM Units

OM units are available for missions mentioned in para 3 only on orders by the following agencies:

(1) The SNB district command, acting either:

a. On orders by the superior SNB office

b. On its own initiative in agreement with the ONV security advisor in case of emergency. Such employment of OM units must be reported immediately.

(2) The platoon command of the SNB border unit (or the command of the SNB station when the SNB border units are either temporarily or permanently not on border guard duty or when OM units are to be committed in the area beyond the customs border zone), in imminent danger or emergency.

The employment of the OM units must be reported at once to the district command.

8. Training and Schooling

OM members are obliged to participate in training and schooling activities performed on orders and directives of the SNB. Four-hour courses are conducted twice a month during the off-duty hours of OM members on Saturdays or Sundays. The instruction includes the following subjects:

(1) Political indoctrination

(2) Principles of intelligence activities

(3) Technical training, for individuals and in groups

(4) Tactical training for individuals and in groups with special reference to the defense of communities and settlements

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

3 - Annex 1

50X1

(5) Firing practices with rifles and pistols (practice with live ammunition following the directives of the SNB)

(6) Antitank training

(7) Principles of the security service.

The training schedule for the subject matter mentioned in para 1 and 2 will be issued later. The training schedule for training activities mentioned in para 3 to 7 is attached as annex.

Training activities are conducted by SNB members. Where an OM unit and a platoon of the SNB border troops are stationed in the same place the training is conducted by the platoon commander and his inspectors following the directives of the SNB district command.

In the training and schooling activities the district commander of the SNB selects specialists such as engineers, radio operators, telephone operators and AA troopers to form a group which is to be assigned special missions. This group is to be employed under the command of the SNB district commander.

9. Powers of OM members

(1) Arrest.

(2) Use of weapons.

(The two articles enlarge upon the circumstances under which OM personnel is authorized in their spheres of activities to arrest persons, to apprehend persons and make use of their weapons).

10. Equipment (weapons)

(The almost undecipherable text shows that the members of the OM are equipped with rifles and sometimes have pistols of their own).

11. Uniforms

Training and commitment of OM members are at present conducted in civilian clothing.

12. Insignia

When on duty, OM members wear seven-cm wide red-colored arm bands on their left arms. The arm bands show the stamp of the OM and a number.

50X1-HUM

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

4 - Annex 1

50X1

50X1-HUM

16. Rank insignia in the units

Squad leaders, platoon leaders, deputy platoon leaders, company commanders and their deputies wear gold strips on a rectangular underlay fastened to the left lapel.

Squad leader: One strip 7 mm in width
Deputy platoon leader: Like squad leader

Platoon leader: Two 7-mm strips
Deputy company commander: Like platoon leader

Company commander: Three 7-mm strips

The strips are 7 mm apart. They are fastened lengthwise to a red rectangular patch 7 x 14 cm.

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20. Payment for OM members

No special payment is provided for service with OM units.

21. Mode of procedure

Lists of persons selected for service with OM units are submitted to the security officer of the district National Committee who has offices of the (3rd AD?) check the proposed persons as to their reliability. With the investigation made he submits to the council of the National Committee the applications of these persons for admission as sworn-in rural guards (he has these applications filled out himself). With the sanction of the council of the district committee obtained he has identification papers filled out which he is given as soon as the SNB district commander reports to the Ministry of the Interior the exact number of applicants for admission to the OM.

22. Commencement of activities

The SNB district commander reporting the completion of all technical preparations, the Ministry of the Interior sanctions the beginning of the activities of the OM units.

Requests relating to the OM are to be submitted to the Ministry of the Interior, Section III/B, People's Police, care of Maj Anton Paducha, telephone 096, extension 476.

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